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LETTER DATED 24 JANUARY 1993 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit, enclosed herewith, the letter of His Excellency Mr. Radoje Kontic, Vice-President of the Federal Government.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIC
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex

Letter dated 24 January 1993 from the Vice-President of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia addressed to the President of the Security Council

Allow me to express my gratitude for the urgency with which you have taken up the problem of the aggression of the Republic of Croatia against the United Nations protected areas - the Republic of Serbian Krajina for consideration in the Security Council, but to our great disappointment your warnings have not borne fruit. It was as though the reaction of the Security Council meant an encouragement for the Republic of Croatia to expand its military operations thus threatening to provoke conflicts in the territory of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Balkans of such proportions that escape any control.

Instead of withdrawing to their original positions, the Croatian forces have reinforced their troops with additional forces, tanks and heavy artillery. They are again inflicting suffering on the innocent civilian population, causing the destruction of Serbian settlements, while columns of refugees are again forced to leave their homes. The 500 civilians and about 150 members of the militia who were killed, as well as the hundreds of wounded on the Serbian side, speak convincingly of the proportions of the aggression.

The current aggression is in violation of the Vance Plan and the decisions of the London Conference, as well as the peace negotiation process in Geneva. It also endangers the decisions of the Security Council and violates the basic principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and as such represents a direct challenge to both the Security Council and the international community. This aggression demands an urgent reaction from the Security Council and the bringing of corresponding decisions which will not only demand the aggressor to withdraw from the attacked territories but also adequately punish it, as provided by the Charter, in particular its Chapter VII.

Mr. President, the population of the Republic of Serbian Krajina has already placed its trust in the United Nations. Today even the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) troops are no longer safe against the ruthless Croatian aggression.

I kindly ask you to exert your utmost efforts in halting the Croatian aggression against the Republic of Serbian Krajina. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as a party to the Vance Plan, feels responsible to react in accordance with this plan and respond adequately to this and all similar aggressions. It is the duty of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to act energetically and protect these regions and its population. In this context, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is prepared, as it has always been, to cooperate most closely with the Security Council in resisting this and all similar aggressions. In case the Security Council is unable, due to technical

reasons, to immediately undertake the necessary protection measures, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia expresses its full readiness to put its forces at the disposal of the Security Council on the basis of the Security Council decision. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is entitled, obliged and authorized to do it, as a party to the Vance Plan.

With a view to preventing the spread of war, I ask you to convene urgently the session of the Security Council which will resolutely condemn the Croatian aggression and order the troops of the Republic of Croatia to immediately stop all military operations and withdraw to their original positions.

Please accept, Mr. President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Radoje KONTIC
Vice-President